

Application No. 10/766,230

Amendment of the Claims**Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for making a prognosis of disease course in a human patient having cancer comprising detecting infiltration of a tumor by plasmacytoid dendritic cells (pDC), wherein infiltration by plasmacytoid dendritic cells is prognostic of the aggressiveness and mortality of the cancer, and wherein said detecting of infiltration of a tumor by pDC comprises testing for secondary pDC markers in the circulating blood.

Claims 2 – 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said secondary pDC markers are selected from the group consisting of type 1 IFN and MXA.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the cancer is primary breast cancer.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein the cancer is primary invasive, non-metastatic breast cancer.

Claim 13 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein said secondary pDC marker is type 1 IFN.

Claim 14 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein said secondary pDC marker is MXA.